Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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12

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11 INR-10

LAB-06 NSAE-00 RSC-01 SIL-01 DODE-00 PA-04 USIA-15

PRS-01 SPC-03 SAM-01 DRC-01 /094 W

----- 049711

R 261644W FEB 74

FM AMEMBASSY MADRID

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8225

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY ROME

USEC BRUSSELS 0797

CONFIDENTIAL MADRID 1307

PASS LABOR AND COMMERCE

E.O. 11652 GDS

TAGS: PFOR, ELAB, ILO, SP, G, UR

SUBJECT: OFFICIAL SPANISH REACTION TO STATEMENTS MADE BY SOVIETS AT ILO REGIONAL CONFERENCE

REF MADRID 1143

1. SPANISH MFA OFFICIAL IN EASTERN EUROPEAN DEPT RECENTLY TOLD EMB OFF THAT SPANISH MFA REACTED SHARPLY TO CRITICAL STATEMENT MADE BY SOVIET WORKER DELEGATE PIMENOV DURING JAN ILO EUROPEAN REGIONAL CONFERENCE GENEVA CONCERNING ALLEGED ABSENCE OF TRADE UNION FREEDOM IN SPANISH SYNDICATES. ACCORDING TO MFA OFFICIAL, SPANISH MFA QUICKLY CONFERRED WITH SPANISH DIPLOMATIC REPRESENTATIVES IN GENEVA AND MOSCOW AND CONSEWUENTLY DECIDED TO REGISTER AN OFFICIAL PROTEST

WITH SOVIET MFA MOSCOW AND SOVIET COMMERCIAL DELEGATION MADRID.

2. SPANISH EXPLAINED TO SOVIETS THAT THEY INTERPRETED STATEMENTS CONFIDENTIAL

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MADE BY SOVIET WORKER DELEGATE AT ILO AS AN ATTEMPT BY SOVIETS TO INTER-

FERE WITH SPANISH INTERNAL LABOR POLICY. SOVIETS WERE TOLD THAT SPANISH

WOULD NOT ALLOW SUCH INTERFERENCE AND THAT EXISTING AGREEMENTS BETWEEN TWO COUNTRIES WERE BASED ON PRINCIPLE OF NON-INTERFERENCE. SOVIET MFA SUBSEQUENTLY MADE ATTEMPTS TO SMOOTH OVER MATTER AND INFORMABLAPOLOGIES WERE GIVEN IN MOSCOW, GENEVA, AND MADRID.

3. IN SPANISH MFA OFFICIAL'S OPINION, THERE APPEARED TO BE A LACK OF COMMUNICATION BETWEEN ILO WORKER DELEGATION AND SOVIET MFA ON THIS ISSUE. HE ADDED SOVIET MFA OFFICIALS IN MOSCOW AND MADRID APPEARED BE TAKEN BY SURPRISE BY STATEMENTS MADE GENEVA. RIVERO

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NNN

^{***} Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

^{***} Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Concepts: LABOR POLICY LINE, LABOR UNIONS

Control Number: n/a Copy: SINGLE Draft Date: 26 FEB 1974 Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960 Decaption Note: Disposition Action: RELEASED Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974MADRID01307

Document Number: 1974MADRID01307 Document Source: CORE Document Unique ID: 00

Drafter: n/a Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: GS Errors: n/a Film Number: n/a From: MADRID

Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path: ISecure: 1

Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740266/aaaagwms.tel Line Count: 82

Locator: TEXT ON-LINE Office: ACTION EUR

Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL Original Handling Restrictions: n/a Original Previous Classification: n/a Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 2

Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a Reference: 74 MADRID 1143 Review Authority: golinofr

Review Comment: n/a Review Content Flags: Review Date: 02 APR 2002

Review Event:

Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <02 APR 2002 by elyme>; APPROVED <03 JUN 2002 by golinofr>

Review Markings:

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier: Review Referrals: n/a Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

Secure: OPEN

Status: <DBA CORRECTED> jms 971020
Subject: OFFICIAL SPANISH REACTION TO STATEMENTS MADE BY SOVIETS AT ILO REGIONAL CONFERENCE

TAGS: ELAB, PFOR, SP, UR, ILO

To: STATE

Type: TE

Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005